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Hendrix Family

*The American Genealogist* January 1990

BENJAMIN HENDRICK (1730-1818) OF VIRGINIA AND  
CAROLINA AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS

Research in "Burned" Southern Counties

*By GeLee Corley Hendrix, C.G.*

The Benjamin Hendrick family presents several problems typical of Southern lines. It emerged in a "burned" county, and migrated "backward" during the turbulent Revolution. Within the lifetime of one son, the line is found in no less than seven states, in fact, in every state along the migration path from Virginia to Louisiana. Worse, eight of the sixteen counties through which the family moved in those years are "burned" counties.

This paper has three purposes. First, it proposes the paternity of Benjamin Hendrick and documents one line of descent through three generations, with information on siblings in each generation. Second, it shows the types of records which can be found, even for burned counties, to regroup families that were only temporarily there. Third, it emphasizes the need to conduct exhaustive research even when one has a Bible or other family record with specific names and dates, since such records are often copied without title pages, ownership information, or other validating evidence.

The most important principle of research in "burned" county situations is one that is commonly called the "vacuum approach." That is, the genealogist "vacuums up" everything that exists on the problem area, wherever it might be found. He or she covers not just the individuals of interest but in-laws and neighbors as well. Then the researcher must sift through the collected material for fragments of information that fit together to form a logical chain of relationships and involvements. Based on the preponderance of evidence, an acceptable conclusion can often be reached.

1 BENJAMIN<sup>2</sup> HENDRICK (*William*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 3 June 1730 in Virginia and died 29 April 1818, according to the Hendrick Family Record created by his grandson (hereafter Fam. Rec.).\* These traditional dates are compatible with the documented details of his life. He was probably born in King William Co., Va., along the College Line (land granted by the Crown for the support of the College of William and Mary) near the mouth of Herring

\* "Records of the Births, Deaths & Marriages of the Family Relations of John W. & Sarah E. Hendrick," apparently created by John William<sup>4</sup> Hendrick (b. 1801, d. aft. 1854); seven sheets, undated, penned almost entirely in one hand, covering the Hendrick family, 1730-1847; the Spencers, 1753-1814; and the Powes, 1771-1818. A photocopy of the original has been provided by Beth Trammell, 2900 Aster, Fort Worth TX 76111. This is cited as Fam. Rec. See also John W. Hendrick Bible, transcription of photocopy by GeLee C. Hendrix and the transcription by Beth Trammel of the White family 1753-1781.

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Creek of Mottapony River, where his proposed father, William Hendrick, had been granted land. On 16 Oct. 1750, apparently in Hanover Co., Benjamin married Rachel Graves, who was born 30 Dec. 1734 in Virginia and died Dec. 1800 in Anson Co., N.C., or Chesterfield Co., S.C. (Fam. Rec.).

The father of Benjamin can only be established circumstantially; but his proposed identity is based upon a thorough study of the entire neighborhood in which Benjamin first emerged in Hanover Co., Va., as well as a similar study of every subsequent neighborhood in which he lived. This study has defined a pattern of migration of several interrelated families that moved, over the decades, from King William, to Hanover and Louisa counties; then to Lunenburg Co. and adjacent Granville Co., N.C.; and finally to Chesterfield Co., S.C., before beginning a new trek westward.

The proposed father, William Hendrick, is first found in northern King William Co., not far from its juncture with Hanover. On 26 April 1712, he patented 98 acres in St. John's Parish, adjacent to the College Line, Horsepen Branch, David Bray, Jacob Wolsey, and Benjamin Arnold, claiming transportation headrights of Philip and Elizabeth Williams (Nell M. Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers: Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants* [Richmond 1934-79], hereafter Nugent, 3:74, 76 [Wolsey, Arnold], 77 [Bray], 127 [Hendrick]). Eighteen years later (21 May 1730) William purchased from his neighbor, Henry Fox, gent., some 400 acres across the Hanover Co. line (Rosalie E. Davis, *Hanover County, Virginia Court Records 1733-1735: Deeds, Wills and Inventories* [Manchester, Mo., 1979], hereafter Hanover Co. Ct. Recs., p. 57). This land, which William acquired less than two weeks before Benjamin Hendrick's birth, lay in the vicinity of Elk and Contrary creeks of North Anna River, according to subsequent deeds created by William's adjacent landowners; William's own deeds do not cite waterways or other landmarks (Hanover Co. Ct. Recs. pp. 30 [Harris], 50 [Bibb]).

The sparse records extant for Hanover Co., and others found in adjacent Louisa Co., show the continued presence of the Hendricks in the Contrary Creek area, on both sides of the Hanover-Louisa line, through the 1740s and 1750s (Louisa Co. LR A:68-69, 280-81, 331-32, 368). The following series of deeds adds to the chain of circumstantial evidence which links together the Contrary Creek Hendricks and supports a presumption of relationship to Benjamin:

1743: William Hendrick of Hanover purchases land from William Monkus of Louisa; witnesses were Thomas Prestwood, Jr., and Anne and William White (Louisa Co. LR A:68-69). Prestwood subsequently appears as a neighbor and associate of Benjamin and William Hendrick of Grassy Creek, Granville Co., N.C. (Granville Co. LR A:54-55, 70-75, 247-48, 316-17, 321-22; E:275-76); and various other Prestwoods and Whites routinely appear as Benjamin's neighbors in all the North and South Carolina counties in which he resided. More-

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over, Benjamin's wife Rachel was the granddaughter of one Unity White, and Benjamin and Rachel's daughter Margaret subsequently married John White (Fam. Rec.).

1748: William Hendrick, Jr., of Louisa Co. purchased land on south fork of the Contrary, adjacent to the land of William Hendrick [Sr.] above; witnesses were John "Kendrick" and Benjamin Arnold (Louisa Co. LR A:331-32). Patent records for William Hendrick, Sr., in King William identify him as adjacent owner to a larger tract issued to Benjamin Arnold and Arnold's transportee, Jacob Wolsey (Nugent 3:127 [Hendrick], 74, 76 [Wolsey, Arnold]).

1749/50: John "Kendrick" and wife Mary sold land on south fork of Contrary with William "Kenrick" and Benjamin Bibb as witnesses (Louisa Co. LR A:368). Bibb also came to the Contrary-Elk Creek area from William Hendrick's neighborhood in St. John's Parish of King William (Hanover Co. Ct. Recs. p. 50).

1771: Gustavus "Henarick" witnesses the purchase of Contrary Creek land by Jas. Byars, Jr. (Louisa Co. LR D 1/2:305-6). A generation earlier (1734) William Hendrick, Sr., had witnessed the purchase of land by James Byers [Sr.] from John Byers (Hanover Co. Ct. Recs. p. 50); in 1762 one William Hendrick [Jr.?] had witnessed another land transfer by James Byars [Sr.] to his son John Byars (Louisa Co. LR C:168). As shown later, Benjamin Hendrick gave the most uncommon name Gustavus to a son born ca.1770.

The last record conclusively found on William Hendrick, Sr., is dated six years after Benjamin's marriage to the daughter of Henry<sup>5</sup> Graves (whose in-laws had also lived in King William).<sup>\*</sup> A set of 1756 accounts from a neighborhood store includes Benjamin, William, and a young John Hendrick, together with Mary Graves, the widow of Henry (*Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 24.4[Nov. 1986]:25, 25.1[Feb. 1987]:39-41, 46). No trace has been found of the disposition of the property which the aging William would have left in Hanover. Under the law of primogeniture then in effect in Virginia, it should have passed to his eldest son.

The Patridge store book of 1756 also indicates that the widowed Mary Graves settled her account on 2 Feb. of that year and made no further charges. Subsequently, she joined a migration (already begun) of Hendricks, Graves, Prestwoods, Allens, Bibbs, and allied families from Hanover and Louisa counties to the Grass[y] Creek-Spewmarrow Creek area that straddled the Virginia-North Carolina border. Mary and her unmarried son Elijah appear on the 1764 list of tithables in Virginia's southside county of Lunenburg (Landon C. Bell, *Sunlight on the Southside: Lists of Tithes, Lunenburg*

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\* Henry<sup>5</sup> Graves, the father-in-law of Benjamin Hendrick, was a large-scale landowner in both Hanover and Louisa cos. who died intestate prior to Dec. 1749. See Nugent, 3:396-98, for three grants of Hanover land to Henry Graves in 1731; Hanover Co. Ct. Rec., p. 37, for a sale of this land in 1734; and Louisa Co. LR A:368-69, for a partial accounting of Henry's estate to minors William and Elijah Graves. Henry's land records do not mention landmarks other than adjacent landowners; documents later executed by those neighbors identify the area as Hinson Creek, some five miles west of the Hendrick land on Elk and Contrary; see Chiswell to Chiswell and Chiswell to Clift, 1735, in Hanover Co. Ct. Recs., pp. 37, 67. For the ancestry of Henry<sup>5</sup> Graves (*Ralph*<sup>4-3</sup>, *John*<sup>2</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>1</sup>), see Virginia M. Meyer and John Frederick Dorman, *Adventurers of Purse and Person*. . . , 3rd ed. (Richmond 1987), pp. 222-23, 330-31.

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*County, Virginia, 1748-1783* [1931; rpt. Baltimore 1974] p. 246; Lunenburg Co. LR 9:90). Further down Grassy Creek, on the North Carolina side of the colony line, her sons Henry, Jr., William, and John Williams Graves appear in Granville land records as early as 1761, with Benjamin "Kendrick" as their sometime witness (Granville Co. LR E:12, 58-59).

Possibly using funds from a parental inheritance, Benjamin Hendrick of Hanover Co., Va., bought his first land on 10 Feb. 1761, paying £35 for 360 acres on Granville's Grassy Creek (Granville Co. LR D:304-5), not far from the land which William Hendrick's friend, Thomas Prestwood, had settled before 1748 (Granville Co. LR E:275-76) and that which John Lawrence had purchased in 1751 with one William Hendricks as witness (Granville Co. LR A:515-16). Benjamin seems to have remained in this neighborhood for a decade before again uprooting his family.

On 30 Nov. 1772, Benjamin bought land in the old Cheraws District of South Carolina (the present "burned" county of Chesterfield) according to a later deed filed in Charleston, which recites a chain of title that includes Benjamin (Charleston Co. LR I-5:161-64). Throughout most of the Revolutionary War, Benjamin remained there, the only Hendrick appearing on the list of property owners aged 21 or older who served as jurors in Cheraw District (GeLee C. Hendrix and Morn McK. Lindsay, *The Jury Lists of South Carolina, 1778-1779* [Greenville, S.C., 1975] p. 42).

The jury service qualifies Benjamin as a patriot under the guidelines of the DAR. There is evidence of military service also, although (as frequently happens) it cannot be found by merely searching records for his name. There is no indication that he later presented an indent for payment as a militiaman. He left South Carolina prior to the 12 March 1783 ordinance for presenting the indents; and the final deadline for presentation was 1 Oct. 1785, prior to his return to South Carolina (Judith M. Brimelow, *Accounts Audited of Claims Growing Out of the Revolution in South Carolina* [pamphlet accompanying S.C. Archives Microcopy No. 8, Columbia, S.C., 1985]). Nor can we find a record of his filing for a pension from the federal government for military action. For evidence of his activities during the war years, it is necessary to search out and examine similar records created by those who were his known associates and neighbors during and after the war.

Most helpful is the pension application (No. S-5533, National Archives) of Daniel Hicks of the Cheraws who, like Benjamin, removed to Mecklenburg (old Lunenburg) Co., Va., during the last years of the war. According to Hicks, he served in the militia company of Benjamin Hendrick, who had been elected captain by his corps of twenty to thirty men. Around 1781-82, Captain Benjamin Hendrick and other neighbors fled Chesterfield with their families, when area Tories began burning homes and committing atrocities



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to the person of the patriots. The Hendrick and Hicks families sojourned in the area of Benjamin's former home, Granville's Grassy Creek, then moved a short distance across the state line to Mecklenburg Co. (cut from Lunenburg in 1765) where Rachel's brother Elijah Graves had settled with their mother before 1761.

On 11 Aug. 1783, Benjamin purchased from his brother-in-law Elijah Graves the 367 acres of land that had been variously accumulated by the widowed Mary Graves (Lunenburg Co. LR 9:90; Mecklenburg Co. LR 2:241, 3:42-48, 6:292). Some two weeks later, Benjamin sold his South Carolina land. The latter deed, written on 27 Aug. 1783, stated that Benjamin Hendrick of Mecklenburg thereby sold to Alexander Outlaw of Washington Co., Va., 300 acres on Thompson's Creek in Cheraw District, S.C. Within six months, Outlaw had reconveyed the property to one Calvin Spencer (Charleston Co. LR I-5:164-65). Spencer, who had moved from Connecticut to South Carolina shortly before the Revolutionary War, subsequently became the grandfather-in-law of Benjamin's son David (Revolutionary Pension Application of "Calvin Spencer, S.C., came from Ct., Rebecca S. Powe, former wid.," W21983; TAG 29:181-83).

The Hendricks did not stay long in Mecklenburg. Benjamin and his son Gustavus (aged 16-21) were taxed together in that county in 1787 (Netti Schreiner-Yantis and Florene S. Love, *The 1787 Census of Virginia*, 3 vols. [Springfield, Va., 1987] 1:573). But in 1788, apparently, the family quit Virginia once more, selling the Graves family land on 14 April to Thomas Culbreath (Mecklenburg Co. LR 7:274).

In the years that followed, Benjamin and Gustavus bounced in and out of the records of both Carolinas. In 1790, Benjamin appears as a head-of-household on no census but may have been one of the adult males enumerated in a household credited to Gustavus Hendrick in Anson Co., N.C., six houses from the residence of Benjamin's son-in-law, John White (*Heads of Families . . . of the United States . . . 1790: North Carolina* [Washington 1908]). By 1800 both he and his son Gustavus had returned to Chesterfield Co. One of the few surviving deeds for Chesterfield (a privately preserved document) indicates that on 3 Nov. 1800, Benjamin purchased from Gustavus 115 acres of the latter's tract of 264 on the south side of Thompson Creek, adjoining his sons John Williams and Asa; witnesses to the transaction were Asa and Benjamin's third son David (*South Carolina Magazine of Ancestral Research*, hereafter S.C. Mag. Anc. Res., 12[1984]:63-67).

The 1800 enumeration of Chesterfield (official census date: first Monday in August) enumerates only Benjamin as a male past the age of 45, with four slaves and no other residents in his household. Sixteen dwellings away appeared his wife's kinsman, Robert Graves (1800 Chesterfield p. 108-b).

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In Dec. 1800, on a day not specifically given in the family record, Rachel (Graves) Hendrick died. Benjamin is enumerated in the census of Chesterfield in 1810 (p. 286), some 13-15 houses from the families of Asa, Thomas, and John Williams Hendrick. Benjamin, his age given in a newspaper notice as 86, married in Sept. 1816 Sarah Smith, aged 66, widow of Robert Smith of Anson Co., N.C. (Anson Co. LR S:250-51; Brent Holcomb, *Marriage, Death, and Estate Notices from Georgetown, S.C. Newspapers 1791-1861* [Easley, S.C., 1979] p. 38). Benjamin died 29 April 1818.

Known children (HENDRICK) of Benjamin<sup>2</sup> and Rachel (Graves):

- i JOHN WILLIAMS<sup>3</sup> b. ca.1751-55 (1790 S.C. cens., Cheraw Dist., p. 49; 1800 cens., Chesterfield Co., S.C., p. 103), prob. in Virginia where his parents then resided; last found on 5 June 1816, Wayne Co., Miss., where he entered a tract of public land (Marilyn D. Hahn, *Old St. Stephen's Land Office Records & American State Papers, Public Lands, Vol. 1, 1768-1888* [Easley, S.C., 1983], hereafter St. Stephen's Land Off., p. 22). Note the given name Williams, rather than William; this name also appears among the previously mentioned brothers of Rachel (Graves) Hendrick.
- ii ASA b. Va. ca.1750-55 (1790 S.C. cens., Cheraw, p. 49; 1800 Chesterfield, p. 103; 1810 Chesterfield, p. 186); n.f.r.; presumed to have died in Chesterfield.
- iii MARGARET b. Va. ca.1755; m. Feb. 1775 JOHN WHITE, b. soon aft. 1755 (Fam. Rec.; 1790 N.C. cens., Anson Co., p. 36; 1800 Chesterfield, p. 107); n.f.r.
- iv GUSTAVUS b. ca.1766-71 (1787 Mecklenburg Tax List; 1800 Chesterfield cens. p. 103b), prob. b. in Granville where his father then owned land, d. 1810 Anson Co., N.C. (will dated 11 July 1810, proved 1810; Anson Co. Wills, Box C.R. 005.801.10, N.C. State Archives); m. ca.1790 PHARABE —, who is mentioned in his will.

2 v DAVID b. 25 March 1772; m. PHOEBE MARTIN.

2 DAVID<sup>3</sup> HENDRICK (*Benjamin*<sup>2</sup>, *William*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Granville Co., N.C., on 25 March 1772 (Fam. Rec.; 1850 fed. cens., Union Parish, La., p. 381, #497/497) near Granville's boundary line with Virginia. He died after 8 March 1852 (Succession of Phoebe Hendrick [see below]) and apparently before the 1860 census. He married on 10 Oct. 1798 (Fam. Rec.), in Chesterfield Co., Cheraw Dist., S.C., PHOEBE MARTIN, who was born in the Cheraws in Sept. 1778 (Fam. Rec.) and died in Union Parish on 8 March 1852 (Succ. of Phoebe Hendrick).

David first surfaces as an adult in South Carolina in 1794 and 1795, when 906 acres of Chesterfield land were surveyed in his name. Some 500 acres, however, he let lapse to his brother Asa in 1797 (S.C. State Plats, Bks. 29:243-44, 36:35). One of his tracts bordered the North Carolina state line; the others were nearby. Again, because of Chesterfield's record destruction, the date and circumstances of David's disposal of this land are unknown. However, a subsequent deed (privately preserved) that was executed by parties of no known connection to this family includes in its chain of title the informa-

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tion that David had disposed of the land by 18 July 1816, the date upon which one John Derden sold it to a James Fields (S.C. Mag. Anc. Res. 12:63-67).

Between 11 May 1803 and 1810, David Hendrick moved his family to the now-burned county of Baldwin in Georgia. The period of the move is fixed by two pieces of information. Under Georgia's first land lottery act (11 May 1803), all free white males over twenty one (and certain others) who resided in the state by that date were eligible to register for the lottery (Augustin S. Clayton, *A Compilation of the Laws of the State of Georgia* [Augusta 1813] pp. 103-4, 131). David does not appear on the lottery lists. Although there are no extant censuses for Georgia in 1810, David can be placed that year in Captain Hill's militia district, as a trustee of Fishing Creek Meeting House, through the surviving state-level copies of the Baldwin tax roll, maintained in the Georgia State Archives in Atlanta.

Within the next two years, David moved his family at least three times. First appearing briefly in the adjacent county of Jones (cut from Baldwin in 1807), David purchased a tract on 15 Feb. 1816 from Micklebury Ferrell but resold the land on 13 Jan. 1817 (Jones Co. LR L:144-47). Shortly after, he moved his family again – and yet again to a county that is now burned, Conecuh in south Alabama. His daughter Maria Louisa, whose birthdate appears as 7 Feb. 1818 in Fam. Rec., is attributed an Alabama birthplace on the 1850 census (Union Parish, La., p. 381, #498/498).

According to federal land records in the National Archives, in Jan. 1819 he appeared at the office of federal land register and receiver in Cahaba, Dallas Co., Alabama Territory, to purchase a tract of raw public land in Conecuh's Township 10, range 15 east (presently Butler Co., also burned). Apparently the land was not to his liking; five months later (8 May 1819) he entered a new tract some 35 miles due southwest (T6 R9), but still in Conecuh (Marilyn D. Hahn, *Old Cahaba Land Office Records & Military Warrants, 1817-1853*, rev. ed. [Easley, S.C., 1986] p. 24).

Two other records document the family's residence in Conecuh: a census and church minutes. Although most of the 1820 federal enumeration of Alabama was destroyed, Conecuh is among the nine counties for which a state-level copy is extant. David Hendrick, with 3 white males under 21, 1 white female over 21, 3 white females under 21, and 8 slaves, is enumerated on the first page of that listing (*Alabama Historical Quarterly* 6[1935]:346).

On 22 June 1822, Brother David Hendrix and wife Phebe were received into the Belleville Baptist Church and they appear to have led quiet lives for some time thereafter. In May 1826, however, they were brought before the church committee on three charges stemming from their efforts to help a married daughter: "1st for using there influence in keeping there daughter in a state of seperation from her husband; 2nd for making an attempt to obtain

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a divorce for his daughter; 3rd for unnecessarily dressing his daughter and sending her out of the state." According to the church minutes, "the proofs and Arguments were heard in each respective case. . . and the yeas and naes in each case. . . were taken; the yeas over the majority largely in favor of Brother and Sister Hendrick so the case is now on a refference." The following November, Brother and Sister Hendrick requested letters of dismission from Belleville, and the letters were granted (Belleville Bapt. Ch. Minutes, pp. 18, 30, 37, at Samford Univ. Archives, Birmingham). No corresponding record appears among the acts of the state legislature, through which divorces had to be obtained in that period. However, David and Phoebe's eldest daughter Elisabeth married in Hinds Co., Miss., in 1833 under the surname Manning (Hinds Co. Marr. Bk. 1:260). At the time her marital troubles surfaced in extant Conecuh records, she was only sixteen.

It is probable that David and Phoebe sent their daughter to their oldest son, John W. Hendrick, who had removed by that time to Mississippi.\* In 1832 David first appears in Hinds Co. deed records, when he purchased from John W. Hendricks [sic] and his wife Sarah E., for \$55, a tract of 39.5 acres, which, in that era, was a subsistence-level "family sized farm" for a man with one or two sons or a minimum number of field hands. Neither family remained in Hinds, however. On 13 Sept. 1839, David executed a deed "for natural love and affection for his son John W. Hendrick now of Wayne Co. [burned], Mississippi," granting him a fourteen-year-old Negro boy named Howard, a slave for life (Hinds Co. LR 2:478). By 1850, the elder Hendrick had removed to Louisiana. Census enumerators that year found David, now 77 but termed a "farmer" worth \$300, and his 72-year-old wife Phoebe, sharing the home of their daughter Elizabeth and her third husband, John Odom, in Union Parish (p. 381, #497).

On 5 Sept. 1854, John W. Hendrick of Jackson Parish, La., filed a petition stating his mother, Phoebe Hendrick, died on 8 March 1852, intestate, at the residence of her husband David Hendrick in Union Parish, leaving heirs of her marriage to David Hendrick: John W. Hendrick; Harriett Ann Hendrick, daughter of David Hendrick, Jr., dec'd., now wife of J.G. [sic] Kelly of Texas; Elizabeth Hendrick, wife of John Odom; Martin Hendrick; Harriett Ann Hendrick, wife of James F. Jones; and Maria Louisa Hendrick, wife of B.B.

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\* It seems likely that David, Sr., also resided in Wayne Co., Miss., briefly between his residences in Conecuh and Hinds. The minutes of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Bucabunna, Wayne Co., indicate that one David Hendrick was received by letter in Feb. 1827 and dismissed by letter 5 Dec. 1829; see *Mississippi Genealogical Exchange* 19(Fall 1973):92, 19(Winter 1973):125. David's brother John Williams Hendrick entered land in Wayne (T7 R5W, along the Alabama line) on 5 June 1816 (St. Stephens Land Off. p. 22); and one Mary Hendrick appears in the Bucabunna church minutes, received by letter on May 1817.

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West, all residents of Union Parish. Harriett Ann Hendrick, wife of James E. [sic] Jones, Mirah Louisa Hendrick, wife of Benjamin B. West, and Elizabeth Hendrick, wife of John Odom, filed an answer on the following 14 Nov., with the same list of heirs except that the husband of David Hendrick, Jr.'s daughter Harriett Ann was given as William G. Kelly. A compromise was filed on 19 April 1855 (Succession of Phoebe Hendrick, Union Parish Misc. Succ. Bk. A-2:100-2).

Children (HENDRICK) of David<sup>3</sup> and Phoebe (Martin):

- i BENJAMIN S.<sup>4</sup> b. 30 Oct. 1799, d. 29 April 1804 (Fam. Rec.).
- 3 ii JOHN WILLIAM b. 12 Oct. 1801; m. SARAH ELIZABETH POWE.
- iii DAVID b. Chesterfield Co., S.C., 27 Feb. 1804, d. Hinds Co., Miss., 24 June 1830 (Fam. Rec.); wife unknown. Had issue *Harriet Ann* (or *Harriet Elizabeth*) *Hendrick* who m. William G. (or J.G.) Kelly of Texas, both named in the previously cited succession of Phoebe (Martin) Hendrick. On 15 May 1839, in Hinds Co., David Hendrick, Sr., made a donation of a three-year-old slave child, Jane, to "my granddaughter . . . Harriett Elizabeth Hendrick, daughter of David Hendrick, Jr. Decd." (Union Parish, La., LR A:225).
- iv ELISABETH b. Ga. (1850 cens.), prob. Baldwin Co. where her father was a church trustee in 1810, 13 Jan. 1808 (Fam. Rec.), d. prob. Union Parish, La., aft. 1854 (Succ. of Phoebe Hendrick); m. (1) — MANNING, whom she apparently divorced; (2) WILLIAM LAWHORN, whom she m. Hinds Co., Miss., 8 May 1833, as Elisabeth Manning (Hinds Co. Marr. Bk. I:260); he d. Hinds Co. 1836 (Hinds Co. Will Bk. I:67); she m. (3) Hinds Co. 7 Sept. 1837 JOHN ODOM (Hinds Co. Marr. Bk. II:59), who was b. Miss. ca.1812 and d. aft. the 1850 federal census (1850 Union Parish cens. p. 381, #496/496).
- v ELIZA b. 16 July 1810, d. prob. Baldwin Co., Ga., 4 Nov. 1814 (Fam. Rec.).
- vi MARTIN b. prob. Baldwin Co. 3 Jan. 1812 (Fam. Rec.), d. Union Parish, La., 23 April 1884; m. Union Parish 8 June 1841, NANCY JANE RALEY (Union Parish Marr. Bk. M:14), who was b. 8 Oct. 1824 and d. 31 Jan. 1897.\*
- vii HARRIET ANN b. prob. Baldwin Co. 8 Sept. 1814 (Fam. Rec.), d. Union Parish, La., 14 Oct 1883 (Fam. Rec.); m. (1) Hinds Co., Miss., 16 Sept. 1832, STANCIL L. WALKER (Hinds Co. Marr. Bk. II:218), by whom she had one dau. b. 1837; m. (2) ca.1839-40 JAMES E. JONES, who was b. S.C. ca.1812, by whom she had several children (1850 Union Parish, La., cens. p. 393, #669).
- viii MARIA LOUISA b. prob. Conecuh Co., Ala., 7 Feb. 1818 (Fam. Rec.), d. aft. 14 Nov. 1854 (Succ. of Phoebe Hendrick); m. (1) Hinds Co., Miss., 3 April 1838, JOHN W. POPE (Hinds Co. Marr. Bk. II:106), div. Union Parish, La., 14 March 1848 (Union Parish Misc. Bk. A-2:438); m. (2) Dr. BENJAMIN B. WEST, as whose wife she appears in the 1850 Union Parish Census (p. 382, #498); a record of the West marriage has not been found.

3 JOHN WILLIAM<sup>4</sup> HENDRICK (*David*<sup>3</sup>, *Benjamin*<sup>2</sup>, *William*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 12 Oct. 1801 (Fam. Rec.), undoubtedly in Chesterfield Co., S.C., on the

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\* Fam. Rec. of John W. Hendrick; and Cuba Dean Family Bible Record. The latter is owned by John Dean of Titusville, Fla.; a copy has been provided by F.P. Dean, 140 9th Avenue, Nederland TX 77627. Cuba, who died in 1929, was a child of Martin and Nancy (Raley) Hendrick; the record provides dates for her parents and siblings.

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land granted to his father; died between the 1860 census and an 1865 tax list, probably in the then-adjacent and now-burned parish of Jackson. He married on 17 July 1825 SARAH ELIZABETH POWE (Fam. Rec.), probably in the now-burned county of Wayne where Sarah's father had entered land on 6 Sept. 1811 (St. Stephen's Land Off. p. 12). Sarah was the daughter of Alexander Powe and wife Eliza<sup>6</sup> Spencer (*Calvin*<sup>5</sup>, *Samuel*<sup>4</sup>, *Isaac*<sup>3</sup>, *Samuel*<sup>2</sup>, *Gerard*<sup>1</sup> of Haddam, Conn. [Fam. Rec. and TAG 29:181-83]), who had removed from Chesterfield Co. to Wayne.

John William's first known appearance in extant legal records is his 1832 sale of Hinds Co., Miss., land to his father David. As previously cited, he had returned to Wayne by 13 Sept. 1839, when his father made a deed of gift to him. From there, he joined the rest of the family in their migration to Union Parish, La., where, beginning in 1848, he executed a number of sales and purchases of land, including a deed of part of his land to Pilgram's [sic] Rest Church (Union Parish LR A:169, 172; C:49, 241, 256-57; D:158, 322; G:160). The family is enumerated on the 1850 census amid the closely clustered households of David, Sr., and his offspring (Union Parish, dwellings 496-500). Moving to nearby Jackson Parish between 1850 and 1854, John W. is enumerated on the 1860 census of Jackson (Vienna P.O., p. 357); but he does not appear on the 1865 list of Jackson Parish taxpayers, charged with a federal assessment to help pay Civil War costs (*The Civil War Tax in Louisiana: 1865* [1892; rpt. New Orleans 1975] pp. 77-81).

Children (HENDRICK) of John William<sup>4</sup> and Sarah Elizabeth (Powe) (from Fam. Rec. and 1850 Union Parish cens. p. 381, unless otherwise cited):

- i JAMES MELTON<sup>5</sup> b. Miss. 11 May 1823.
- ii ELIZA PHEBE b. Miss. 15 Sept. 1825; m. Union Parish, La., 7 March 1845, THOMPSON WOOD (Fam. Rec.; Union Parish Marr. Bk. M:38).
- iii CAROLINE LEVANA b. 6 Feb. 1829, d. 24 Aug. 1830.
- iv HARRIET ANN b. Miss. 9 July 1831, d. 14 Oct. 1833.
- v REBECCA ELMIRA b. Miss. 12 Nov. 1834.
- vi MARY ANN b. Miss. 11 Dec. 1836, the only survivor of twin sisters.
- vii twin b. 11 Dec. 1836, d.y.
- viii VIRGINIA b. Miss. 2 March 1839.
- ix DAVID ALEXANDER b. Miss. 23 April 1841.
- x SARAH JANE b. La. 22 Jan. 1845.
- xi OLIVIA b. La. 8 March 1847, not in 1850 fed. cens., taken 31 Aug.

The author would like to acknowledge her appreciation to Virginia Castleton Widenmyer of Boca Raton, Fla., who commissioned this research, for permission to publish this case study; and the assistance of Sharon Sholars Brown, C.G., of Jonesboro, La., who performed the courthouse research in Union Parish, La.

Mrs. Hendrix is a retired pharmacist. She lives at 3 Acorn Court, Greenville SC 29609.



*Hendrix*

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THE HENDRIX FAMILY OF  
MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA  
ANTECEDENTS AND DESCENDANTS

Roberta L. Hendrix

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The family of David Hendrix and his wife Margaret was an interesting one from the point of sex distribution; seven sons were born in succession, the first followed five daughters. From the Bible record furnished by Miss Ellen Hendrix the family may be named.

1. Jacob, born 21 April 1801, near Lexington, S.C. Married Mary Elizabeth Tracer at Lexington where they remained until after 1850. His wife having died in 1849 Jacob decided to follow his brothers Joel and Jahaziel Hendrix to Mobile. How long he stayed here is not known; but his son Patrick Hendrix enlisted from Mobile in 1861 as a Confederate soldier. Probably after the War between the States, Jacob joined his brother in or near DeSoto, Mississippi. He died there in 1882. His family is also unusual, in that he, too, had seven sons in succession, followed by three daughters. His wife Mary E. Hendrix, consort of Jacob Hendrix, is buried in St. Stephen's Cemetery, Lexington, S.C. She died 30 November 1849, aged 52 years, 8 mo. and 1 day.

The names of all of his sons are not remembered, but in 1850 while Jacob was still living in Lexington, the census return was as follows; Jacob Hendrix, age 49, Robert Hendrix, age 25, occupation, shoemaker; Eli Hendrix, age 28; Joseph Hendrix, age 20; Henry Hendrix, age 17; Jane A., age 15; Anna M.B., age 13; Mary E., age 11.

The letter just quoted from Hattie McRee Hendrix reveals that her father Patrick Henry (called Henry) Hendrix moved with his family to Tampa, Florida, in March of 1882, shortly after the death of her grandfather Jacob Hendrix. Patrick Henry married Caroline Rebecca McRee in 1867, having delayed marriage until he was thirty-six years old. He died in September of 1882, just a few months after moving to Florida, having had eleven children in fifteen years, ten of whom survived him.

2. John, second son of David and Margaret Meetze Hendrix, was born 18 July 1803. He was the only one of David's sons who remained in South Carolina until his death. He married Elizabeth Sharpe Hook, widow of Philip Hook, and was preparing to move his family to Alabama, when he was killed by a fall from his horse near the Saluda river; so his family remained in South Carolina to be the ones to preserve the family records of David's family. The date of John's death was 14 April 1834. He left five children. Sarah Hendrix, b. about 1725, married Lewis Riddle; Joseph E. Hendrix born about 1827 (1850 census), married Catherine Rawl; John

1. J. Ed Hendrix, *Manuscript* Letter from Miss Hattie McRee Hendrix, Plant City, Florida to Mr. Hendrix; Hattie Hendrix was a daughter of Patrick Henry Hendrix, youngest son of Jacob Hendrix.

Solomon Hendrix, born 12 November 1831-died 19 October 1917, married Martha Ann Snellgrove; he was the father of Ellen Hendrix who never married and to whom we are indebted for these records; Jane, born about 1732, married Elbert Kaminer; Henry Edwin, born about 1733, married Isabel-----. Elizabeth Hendrix is buried at Turners Landing in St. John's Lutheran Church Cemetery: Elizabeth Hendrix, born 14 February 1797-died 16 Oct. 1883. There is a space next to this stone for another grave, but no stone is there; John Solomon and his wife are also buried in this cemetery.

3. Jeremiah, third son of David and Margaret Meetze Hendrix, was born 18 September, 1805. We have no further reference to him, although it appears that he was living in his father's family in 1820. The census of that year gives David six children living with him. We know that Jacob and John did not leave South Carolina with their parents, and four daughters were born after 1820, which leaves six children in David's family at that date. The sexes are not recorded correctly in the census, but these errors were very common on the part of enumerators. It appears that Jeremiah removed to an unknown location, or died young.

4. James, fourth son of David and Margaret Meetze Hendrix was born 17 March 1809. He married Lidia-----, born about 1816 in South Carolina, and in the 1850 census they have seven children in their household; Reuben, age 16; Peter, age 14; Margaret, age 12; Artemesia, age 8; Asa S., age 5, Lucy, age 3; Noah, age 1. James married for his second wife Chloe Walker on 5 January 1854. (Marriages, Vital records, Monroe County Courthouse, Monroeville, Alabama.)

James Hendrix like others in the family removed to Florida sometime after 1854 and most likely after 1870; Miss Hattie Hendrix remembered this family and said that Cousin Lucy told stories of her grandfather David. The last time she saw him she was about five years old, which seems to verify his death date as 1852<sup>2</sup>; also he must have lived his last years in or near Monroeville, but he was not found in the 1850 census; he may have lived in another town nearby.

5. Joel, the fifth son of David and Margaret Meetze Hendrix, was born 19 June 1811. Although he is believed to have accompanied his

1. *Manuscript*, J. Ed Hendrix, Family data furnished by Miss Ellen Hendrix of Lexington, S.C.

2. *Manuscript*, J. Ed Hendrix, Letter from Miss Hattie McRee of Florida.

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parents to Conecuh County, Alabama in 1818, he is reported to have learned the mercantile trade in Lexington, S.C. and to have been a merchant in Columbia, S.C. in early manhood. About 1835 he removed to Mobile, Alabama, where he married Martha A. Taylor on 18 October 1840. He owned property in Mobile, but is said to have sold his interests and moved to DeSoto, Mississippi, before the Civil War. Here he planted and developed a 300 acre peach and fruit farm, which was destroyed during the Civil War. He removed to Manatee county, Florida, in 1870, becoming the third settler in Palmetto on the north side of the Manatee river. He planted the first orange grove in that section and also started the fruit and vegetable growing for northern markets. He died 1 July 1892. He had the following children: Francis Henry, born 1841 - killed in the Battle of Chickamauga near Chattanooga in September 1864; Margaret Elizabeth, born 1846 - died 1850; Mary Thackley, born 1849, married Thomas Bruce McRee in Clark County, Miss. in 1870; Willard Fillmore, born 1852-married Mary E. Bronson; Hillard Davis, born 1855 - died 1868; Gilbert Taylor, born 1858 - died 1863; Joel Wigfall, born 1861, married Jane S. Nettles.<sup>2</sup>

6. Jahaziel Hendrix, sixth son of David and Margaret Meetze Hendrix, was born 8 November 1813 and died 26 November 1896. His story will be taken up at the conclusion of the information about his brothers and sisters.
7. Noah Hendrix, seventh son of David and Margaret Meetze Hendrix, was born 24 September 1816. He is said to have enlisted in the Seminole Wars, between 1835 - 1842, being killed or dying while in service. He is buried in the garrison at Fort Brock, near Tampa, Florida. He was possibly the first of the family to go into the newly purchased territory of Florida.
8. Charlotte Hendrix, born 24 September 1818. No further record.
9. Martha Hendrix, born 22 February 1821. No further record.
10. Sarah Hendrix, born 15 February, 1825; she married a man named Campbell, and died at DeSoto, Miss. about 1890; it is said that she went to Florida about the time Joel Hendrix did, but later returned to DeSoto. Martin Luther Hendrix remembered his aunt Sarah Campbell.
11. Naomi Hendrix, born 15 March 1830. No further record.

2. Letter to Miss Lenice McRee, from descendant of Nevel McRee, husband of Jocassian Hendrix.

12. Margaret Hendrix, born 15 August 1823; married Eli Hendrix, her cousin and son of Peter Hendrix. J. Ed Hendrix remembers Margaret and Eli when they lived at Mexia, Alabama. Eli was a Methodist preacher; in 1850 this couple was living in Mobile County, Alabama.

The story of Jahaziel Hendrix can be told not only from records, but from personal knowledge. Born 8 November 1813 near the waters of Saluda river about seven miles northwest of Lexington village, his family home was in or near the German settlement of Saxe-Gotha, where his maternal grandfather John Yost Meetze had established himself soon after the American Revolution. In this region also had settled Tobias Hendrix and his four sons and his son-in-law, Amos Hendrix. David Hendrix married Margaret Meetze about 1800 and apparently lived in his father's household in 1800. By 1810 he had his own home, possibly on part of the paternal acres. Here his family attended St. Peter's Lutheran Church, of which his father-in-law John Yost Meetze was pastor for many years.<sup>1</sup>

The fever to emigrate to new lands seemed to hit David and his older brother Peter at about the same time, for they were both gone from the old home between 1818 and 1820. Their nephew, Henry, son of John Hendrix, also removed about this time to Monroeville, where he was married to his second wife Mary C. Porter on 5 December 1818. His first wife, whom he had married about 1812 in South Carolina, died before he removed to Monroeville, leaving him with three daughters.<sup>2</sup>

David Hendrix settled first near Red Level, Conecuh County, Alabama, where he must have had a large establishment, as he owned twelve slaves in 1820. His younger children all presumably came to Alabama at that time with their parents. The two older boys remained behind, Jacob to work in the store and shoe shop of his uncle John Meetze; John Hendrix may have kept the old home, for he fell from his horse to his death on the lands by the Saluda river in 1834.

Little is known about the years in Conecuh County, nor exactly when David followed his brother into Monroe County, Alabama. He was there in 1840 and probably died there in 1852. In the meantime, his sons had reached man's estate and left the paternal home. We know that James also settled in Monroe County, but Jahaziel went to Clarke County, Mississippi, to a spot about seven miles from the town of DeSoto. His grandson, Robertus McRee, told the writer in 1962, while

1. Scott, Edwin J., *Random Recollections*, p. 106
2. Hendrix, Mary Louise, *Hendrix Kith & Kin*, p. 3.



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I was a guest in his home, that Jahaziel had owned the farm property where the McRees now lived, near DeSoto, Mississippi.

He showed me the place where the old home had stood, not many yards from the present house, which was built by the McRees. Surrounding the present house are seven huge, old, live oak trees. Fields where beef stock are now pastured spread out from the home. In 1962 the road into the farm was unbelievable, a narrow, dirt road winding in a federal route 448, through sparsely settled farm country. The old home, built in the traditional southern style, with a porch and a central chimney, the center of the house and high rooms opening either side, was equipped with all modern conveniences. From the porch and the fire the most bountiful meal I have ever been set before.

An old deed to the property was brought out, but the Hendrix name was not on it. Apparently Jahaziel had worked the land before 1850, but had not secured a grant from the state. A man named Knight had then bought the cleared and improved land from Jahaziel, and secured a state grant. He sold to Neville E. McRee, who had come to Clarke County with two older members of his family.

The McRees and the Hendrixes intermarried several times. Two sons and a daughter of Neville McRee married Hendrix cousins, the daughter of Joel Hendrix, the daughter of Jahaziel Hendrix and the son of Jacob Hendrix. From which it is evident that Joel, Jacob, and Jahaziel were all located close together in Mississippi, perhaps Jahaziel, who had no deed clearing a corner of Joel's three hundred acre peach orchard.

While in Mississippi, Jahaziel married Harriet Emaline Hurt. Within a short time, they removed to Mobile County, Alabama, for in 1850 they were living in Mobile County, near Joel Hendrix, Ely Hendrix, and Joseph Hendrix, the last two men being his cousins and sons of Peter Hendrix. In 1850 Jahaziel and Harriet Emaline had two children, Lucinda, age 3 years, and Joel, age 1 year.<sup>1</sup>

On June 22, 1852 Jahaziel Hendrix received a deed to a tract of land called part of the St. Louis tract, three miles north of Mobile, by Jacob and Mary Magee. In a deed transfer dated 17 November 1869 and recorded in May 1870, Jahaziel Hendrix for one hundred dollars received another tract of land from James H. Meaker and wife.<sup>2</sup>

1. Federal Census, Mobile County, Alabama, 1850.

2. Record of Deeds, Mobile County Courthouse, Mobile, Alabama.

In a deed of property release signed by the widow and children of Jahaziel Hendrix on 29 April 1899, those signing released their interest in the property of Jahaziel Hendrix to their son and brother John Hendrix, for six hundred dollars; recorded 25 May 1899. Those signing were: Eugene McRee and Delia McRee; Kate Hendrix and Luther Hendrix; Lou Buckley and George Buckley; Martha Toomer, and Thomas G. Toomer; Joel Hendrix; Jacob Hendrix; William Hendrix; and finally Harriet Hendrix, the widow, made her mark.

The family Bible of Jahaziel Hendrix remained in the possession of his son John Hendrix who continued to live in the old home with his mother Harriet until her death in 1901; his son John inherited and sold the property for a modest amount. The Bible disappeared.

The family home stood on the spot now occupied by Vigor High School in Prichard, Alabama, about a mile from the home later established by Luther Hendrix. Jahaziel and his wife were interred in Rawls Cemetery near their home, but no monuments were erected. Ruth Hendrix, daughter of Luther, said that at one time there were wooden crosses, but they were long gone by the time I visited the spot. Several of their children were also buried in this spot, once quiet and rural, but now enveloped by the city of Prichard. In the nineteen fifties, the city was about to remove all vestiges of the cemetery where only one marker remained, when Ruth Hendrix Summersgill protested and the city officials were obliged to leave the spot untouched. It is now a small, mowed plot with city traffic passing on all sides. Plans to erect a large marker with the names of those buried in the cemetery was never realized.

Without the Bible of Jahaziel Hendrix, the birthdates of his children were difficult to obtain. Census returns are often inaccurate, as is evident when reviewing the different returns at ten year intervals. Some enumerators were more precise than others while a few seemed to acquire the information from one who was guessing, or did not care to state true ages.

By comparing the returns with such family knowledge as was available, and taking into consideration the information given on such death certificates as were obtainable, the following roster of children was compiled.

Harriet Hurt Hendrix was born about 1827-1828, possibly in No one seemed to really know her birthplace, the only place to have Georgia, Mississippi, North and South of their mother. While she was left as

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turns gave her birthplace as Alabama. She married Jahaziel Hendrix about 1846 in Mississippi as is presumed.

1. John, called Lu, born 1847, married George Buckley. They had a son and a daughter.
2. Jack, called Joe, born 1849, died unmarried 2 April 1913.
3. Martha, born 20 May 1852 at Turnerville (Prichard); married Thomas Toomer and died 26 July 1922. They had one son.
4. Jocassian, called Cassie, born about 1854, married Neville McRee, Jr., son of Neville E. McRee, who lived on the old homestead near DeSoto, Mississippi. She died there 29 April 1893. Her son, Robertus McRee received the property by inheritance and/or purchase from his many brothers and sisters, by three wives of Neville McRee, Jr. who had fourteen children.
5. Della Annie, born about 1856 at Turnerville, married Eugene McRee, son of Ellison McRee, and a nephew of Neville McRee, Jr. She lived on Turner Road, between Turnerville (Prichard) and Whistler, where she died 16 March 1929. Her children were Edgar McRee, married Pauline or Polly Jensen; Lenies McRee, unmarried, and Estelle, married John Finch.
6. William, born about 1858 at Turnerville, died 10 October 1910, unmarried.
7. John, born June, 1860, lived in Jahaziel's old home, and married Sarah McGee. They had one son, John Jr., who died unmarried.
8. Jacob, born 5 July 1863, at Turnerville, died unmarried 7 July, 1921.
9. Martin Luther, called Luther, born 15 August 1869, married Kate Wilson Smith on 26 February 1892 and died 20 July 1913.

Martin Luther Hendrix acquired about eleven acres of land on Turner Road, between Turnerville, now Prichard, and Whistler, in Mobile County. On this land less than a mile from his father's home, Luther built a four-room house in the southern manner, with a wide hall traversing the house and two large and airy rooms opening off on each side. The actual work of building was done by Luther and his

brothers, for all were skilled at carpentry. It was completed at 1896 and there Luther and his wife Kate spent the remainder of their lives. Their daughter Ruth took over the home after the early deaths of her parents, made a home for her brothers, and lived all her life, except for a year or two early in her marriage, in this house. Kate Hendrix died in February or March 1913 of tuberculosis; no record of her death has been found, either at the Vital Records Bureau of Mobile County or at the State Archives in Montgomery. Her children, being young, do not remember the exact date.

Martin Luther died the same year, 20 July 1913, leaving four children, the oldest eighteen years old. His death certificate says he died of uremia; his daughter said he had a stroke and ulcers on his legs, which leads one to think of diabetes, which has appeared in one of his grandsons. He worked in the railroad shops at Whistler until he was struck by lightning in the early nineteen hundreds. After this misfortune he gradually lost the use of his legs, always walking with the aid of a staff. He became a gardener, raising vegetables for the local market. There was never a mortgage on his home during his lifetime. Luther and his wife Kate were buried in Rawls cemetery beside his parents; all trace of their graves is now obliterated.

Their first child, Sarah Frances, was born in the home of her grandparents on 22 February 1893; she died 25 July 1893.<sup>1</sup>

2. Ruth Lee, their second daughter, was born 21 February 1895 and died 13 February 1970. She attended local schools until the age of fourteen, when she had to give up her dream of attending high school and remain at home to help her ailing mother. After the death of her parents, she kept the home together with the aid of her mother's brother, uncle Jim Smith. He lived with the family most of the time. Ruth married Hanson Rexford Summersgill 19 August 1914.<sup>2</sup>

Their children:

- a. Mary Katherine Summersgill, born 15 October 1915 - died 10 May 1918.
- b. Ruth LaDelle Summersgill, born 20 September 1917; married Alfred Dailey Wilber, Jr. 19 June 1938. He was born 30 June 1913. Five children - Ruth LaDelle, Diana Dale, Alfred David, Harry Lee, and Samuel Michael Wilber. Ruth LaDelle

3. ~~Thomas Smith Family Bible~~, in possession of H.R. Summersgill, Jr.  
4. ~~Smith Family Bible~~, in possession of L. R. Summersgill, Jr.

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father born S.C., Mother born S.C.  
Catherine R. Smith - 66 - wife - S.C.  
father born Va., Mother born Va.  
Georgianie A. Smith - 27 - daughter - Ala.  
father born N.C., Mother born S.C.  
Whistler, William - 14 - grand son - born Miss.  
father born Ala., Mother born Tenn.

James B. Smith settled in Calhoun County, Alabama, after his marriage to Frances A. Rogers.

Census, Calhoun County, Alabama, Beat 12, Dartsville; enumerated June 1880. (Calhoun County was formerly Benton County)

James B. Smith - 48 - farmer - born S.C.  
father born N.C., Mother born S.C.  
Fannie A. Smith - age 32 - born Ala.  
father born S.C., Mother born Ala.  
Katie W. - age 10 - daughter - born Ala.  
father born S.C., Mother born Ala.  
John B. - age 8 - son - born Ala.  
father born S.C., Mother born Ala.  
Josiah - age 5 - son - born Ala.  
father born S.C., Mother born Ala.  
William - son - born Ala.  
father born S.C., Mother born Ala.

The births as recorded in the Bible of James B. Smith are as follows;

James B. Smith - born 9 June 1831  
Frances A. Rogers - born 29 May 1845  
Married 17 September 1865

1. Carl - born 8/15/1868 - died 8/15/1868, Oxford, Ala.
2. Catherine (Kate) Wilson Smith - born 1/7/1870 - died 3/ /1913, Whistler, Ala., married Martin Luther Hendrix 2/26/1892
3. John Burrell Smith - born 4/25/1872, Oxford, Ala. - died at Whistler, Ala.
4. Josiah Rogers Smith - born 6/28/1874, Oxford, Ala. - died 2/7/1913, Whistler, Ala., married Lillie Long.
5. Walker Leander Sylvester Smith - born 10/18/1875, Oxford, Ala. died 7/22/1876, Oxford, Ala.
6. Infant - born 9/11/1877 - died 9/11/1877.
7. James Thompson Smith - born 6/9/1880  
Married Mrs. Shannahan (no Children)

It will be noted that the infant called William in the Census of 1880 was renamed James Thompson Smith. At the time of the census enumeration he was eight days old. James B. Smith died at Oxford, Ala. 8 January 1883, leaving his wife and four living children. At an unknown date she came to Whistler, Ala. where her sister Amanda Fitzgerald was living; It was said that her sons sought employment in the railroad shops, so the date of coming to Whistler may have been about 1888. John Burrell (which I suspect should have been spelled "Burwell" in the Bible) died as a young man, some say by his own hand because of a love affair. James Thompson Smith married late in life; after the death of his sister Kate and her husband M.L. Hendrix, he lived much of the time in the home of his niece and nephews. Josiah or Joe Smith lived nearby on Turner Road. Frances Rogers Smith died 30 Dec. 1891 near Whistler, Ala. She and her sons John Burrell, Josiah, and daughter Kate are all buried in Rawls Cemetery, now completely obliterated. Only wooden crosses marked the graves and time caused their disappearance. The city of Prichard was about to allow the small cemetery to be used for building purposes, when a protest by Ruth Hendrix Summersgill prevented the destruction of the site. Today it is a neatly mowed spot within the City of Prichard.

A story recounted to me many years ago concerned Grandma Smith. I supposed the reference was to Frances Rogers Smith. It was to the effect that Grandma Smith was disinherited by her wealthy family because she married beneath her. Research in possible Rogers lines failed to disclose the story.

Lon Smith had thought that his grandmother's maiden name was Boller. Research here led me down many fruitless paths. Finally, while researching at the State Archives in Montgomery, Ala., trying to find out more about John Smith, a will was discovered, written by Susannah Bozeman 3 September 1845. She mentioned her daughter Catherine R. Smith, wife of John Smith of Benton County, State of Alabama. An immediate search in the 1880 Census for Benton County, Alabama, revealed John and Catherine and their four children, with names and dates corresponding to the family Bible. The will of Susannah Bozeman confirmed the disinheritance, but showed that it was the grandmother of Kate Wilson Smith who was disinherited, Catherine R. Bozeman Smith.

Wills of Abbeville County, S.C., 1839-1855 - p. 262. (State Archives, Columbia) Alabama Records, Vol. 88, compiled by Jones and Gaudred, (Archives, Montgomery) in the name of God, Amen. I Susannah Bozeman, being of sound mind and disposing memory do ordain this my last will and testament, to wit: Item 1st. - I give and bequeath to



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From: josephine bass <jbass@digital.net>  
To: "CIVIL-WAR genealogy list" <CIVIL-WAR@rmgate.pop.indiana.edu>  
Subject: The Cherished Letters  
Date sent: Tue, 29 Apr 1997 01:49:40 -0400  
Send reply to: CIVIL-WAR@rmgate.pop.indiana.edu

IN THE SOUTH

**HENDRICKS** - the name is Dutch and may be spelled Hendrik, Hendrix, Hendrick. James Hendricks and his wife Jane landed at Jamestown, VA from Holland. The First Generation in America. By the Fourth Generation, Thomas Wayman Hendricks was born Jun 25, 1835, died Feb 8, 1865. He married Dec 18, 1856 to Eliza Jane Deaver (1840-1912). He had children: Benjamin Franklin, Mary, Martha, Eliza, and Thomas.

David Hendricks, the original Hendricks to come to Blount Co. settled in Blountsville, AL in the late eighteen thirties or early forties. He came from Pickens Co. SC, and had a large family. It is the general belief that the early Hendricks were Methodist. They were pious, upright citizens. They were not slave owners, but some of them had a house servant or two. Thomas Wayman Hendricks is the writer of the Cherished Letters. He had brothers, David Addison (was a Methodist minister), Lemuel Levert (died of fever in the trenches near Murphreesboro, TN during the War), Lihugh (died of TB), James (died in young manhood), and sisters Sarah (died when a baby) and Jane (died when small).

Thomas Wayman Hendricks entered the Civil War on August 19, 1862. He was a volunteer and fought nobly for the Southland until he was killed by the Yankees, Feb 8, 1865. He was a cavalryman in Company B, 12th Alabama Regiment, with his cousin, John David Hendricks as his lieutenant and Mr. Augustus (Gus) Ingram as his captain. He was in General Wheeler's Army. He was shot by the Yankees while on scout duty at Pole Cat, South Carolina, near Savannah, GA. He was sent out on scout duty by Sergeant Levi Stephens, who took charge of Lieutenant Hendricks' men, when he Hendricks and some of his men were cut off from the main army for a day or two. Mr. George Clowdus, a cousin of Thomas Hendricks' wife, was with him when he was killed and related the incident leading to his death.

He said the little scouting party ran into the Yankees before realizing that the Yankees were so near. They ran from the Yankees down a long, sandy road, on each side of which were thick, scrubby, black jack oak trees and bushes, which made taking to the woods difficult. The sandy road slowed the horses terribly, but Thomas' horse was making good progress. Mr. Clowdus' horse was rapidly losing ground when Thomas called back, "Take to the woods George, take to the woods," but his horse would not go through the scrubby oaks, so Mr. Clowdus waved a white handkerchief, but the oncoming Yankees shot him anyway. He lay on the ground until morning, then he crawled down the road a short distance where he found Thomas Hendricks' body. The Yankees had killed him and completely rifled his pockets.

Lt. John David Hendricks was terribly hurt over Thomas' death. He said he would never have sent the men out on a scouting expedition if he had been with them.

Jane Deaver Hendricks was a noble, Christian lady. Meek, modest, unassuming, yet strong in purpose, determination and convictions of right, she walked steadily and firmly, under her heavy cross of widowhood, through the dark days of Reconstruction, and the years that followed

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There were no words of self pity or complaint, rather there was humble submissiveness to God's will and cheerful following of His further guidance. When on furlough once, Thomas had sold their farm and bargained for another near his father and mother to protect his family, but when he went to close the deal for the farm he wished to buy, the owner decided not to sell. Greatly disappointed, he had to return to the army before locating another desirable farm. Jane kept the Confederate money for which their farm sold until the war ended, hoping that her husband could come home and select a good farm. When the war ended the money was worthless. Her brothers wanted to give her some land adjoining their land on the Warrior River, which was a part of the Deaver estate. It was on this land near the present town of Locust Fork in Blount county that she reared her family.

Her son Franklin was plowing at nine years of age. He was unusually dependable as he grew up and assumed his duties and responsibilities manfully. He loved his horses and gave them the best of care. Their home was a veritable beehive of industry. Spinning, weaving, sewing and knitting were daily activities, and many yards of cloth came from their loom including double woven counterpanes, coverlets, and blankets. They wove the cloth for nearly all of their clothes. There were many pretty quilts too. Saturdays were very busy days. There were wooden pails, piggins, trays, chums and floors to be scrubbed with white sand, yards to be swept and baking for Sunday to be done. There was much hard work, too hard for young shoulders, but no shoulders ever carried their loads more courageously, more dutifully, or more willingly than did these four children. Despite their tragic loss and the hard work which was their lot in life, there existed a joyous peace and happiness in their home that was seldom equaled.

Many fine people enjoyed the hospitality for which their home was noted. They were all regular attendants of their church, Cumberland Presbyterian services, as well as the services of other nearby churches. The four children grew into fine, Christian young people, whose friends and associates were numbered with the best people of the county. From among these friends they selected their life companions and established four Christian homes.

The DEAVER genealogy has been hard to trace. The name, I believe, is Dutch. Matthew Deaver, born Jan 16, 1781, d. 1847. He married in 1808 Sheba Deaver (1784-1862). Matthew Deaver and his wife Sheba, once lived in the cedar log house that now stands near the highway at Armstead. Armstead is a station on the Louisville and Nashville railroad, two or three miles south of Chepultepec. I believe that Cumberland Presbyterian church services were held in their home while living in this house. They were baptized in the branch, a few feet below the large spring on the John Hendricks farm, which is a mile southwest of the present town of Allgood, Alabama. They waded into the branch, hand in hand, knelt and the preacher poured the water on their heads. The farm on which this spring is located was owned by my grandmother Armstrong's father, at the time of the above mentioned baptismal service, and grandmother was present at the service. She repeated the story to me several times.

Matthew Deaver was killed by a falling limb. His skull was fractured. His son, Wilson, sent a slave on horse back to Elyton, Alabama, for Dr. Smith, who was the nearest doctor. Wilson B. Deaver was a wealthy slave and land owner. He owned the land where the town of Oneonta in Blount Co. AL is now

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located. He owned a large tract of land near and including St. Clair springs in St. Clair Co. AL. He was building the St. Clair Springs into a health resort.

He owned a store and tan yard, both of which were robbed many times by the Tories (Northern sympathizers). They also robbed his home of beds, pillows, quilts, blankets, saddles and many other things. He was shot by the Tories as he stood at his front gate one day during the Civil War. They were hidden in the woods near his home. He lived about four years after he was shot, but never fully recovered from the wound.

Wilson Deaver was a soldier in the Mexican War. Later he was the cause of a post office being established which he named Chepultepec for a town in Mexico. The post office still functions in Blount County. He was the owner of about eighty slaves at one time. He bought Jack Staton, a fine negro, from his father-in-law, George D. Staton, just before the Civil War for \$2,000. He did not change the negro's name. After the war Jack Staton was a well to-do and well known negro to the people of Oneonta, Alabama. His wife was the Staton cook during slavery days. The relationship between Wilson Deaver and his slaves was decidedly praiseworthy. He treated them with great kindness, they in turn loved and respected him. He whipped his shoe maker once for disobeying him. By his disobedience the slave ruined some very fine leather. The whipping was such an unusual event that the children, both white and black, were so frightened that they all ran and hid. Wilson B. Deaver's most outstanding attribute was his Christian life. As a Cumberland Presbyterian minister he was a power for good and the cause of Christ. Mary Staton Deaver, Wilson's wife, was a very capable Christian lady. She managed the affairs of her home and large family most efficiently. She expertly supervised the work, as well as the health and well being of the negro women and children on the plantation. Her father was George D. Staton, born in Richmond, Virginia, in 1776, he died in 1860. He married Nancy Wilkshire (also spelled Wilcher and Wilkins) whose father owned the land on which McMinnville, TN is now built. The Statons were Irish, but I am not sure that the first Statons in America came directly from Ireland.

Joseph Staton was possibly our immigrant ancestor. He landed in Somerset County, MD in August 1666, and moved later to Accomac Co. VA. Mary "Polly" Staton married Wilson B. Deaver, and they were Eliza Jane Deaver Hendricks' parents.

My mother, Mary Hendricks Armstrong, often spoke of her girlhood days, her home, her people, whom she loved devotedly and her friends. She liked to talk about her grandfather and grandmother, Moses and Martha Hendricks, whom she remembered very well. She loved her grandfather dearly for his gentle, kindly disposition and his kindness to her. Her grandfather was a farmer, carpenter and cabinet maker. Mother loved to play in his shop. She liked to cover her hair and dress with the curled shavings that fell from his plane. One day after bedecking herself as thoroughly as possible with the shavings, she stepped out of the shop, which stood by the side of the road, just as a man came riding by. His horse became so frightened at her, that he would not pass the shop until her grandfather carried her, a badly scared little girl, back into the building. He told her to never do that again.

Mother remembered that her grand-parents often visited her mother and aided her in every way possible during the war. Mother remembered seeing her father vaguely, one time. He came home from the army on furlough, arriving

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at night. The children were all in bed asleep. He aroused them all with hugs and kisses and they all sat on his lap for awhile. Mother thought her grandmother Deaver was an unusually good lady. She could remember very little about her grandfather Deaver. Mother very often spoke of having so much fun at home. She said every member of the family worked hard, but they all had much wholesome fun.

THE CHERISHED LETTERS  
THE CHERISHED LETTERS

Calhoun County, Camp Hunley,

Calhoun County, Camp Hunley,

September 18th, 1862

Mrs. E. J. Hendricks,

Kind and Affectionate Wife:

It is with pleasure this evening that I answer your very kind letter sent by J.D. I was very glad to hear from you that you and the children were all better. I hope by this time you all are sound and well. You cannot imagine how bad I want to see you all. It seems like I have been from home a month. But I must tell you something about the times here. I tell you we have all been mad since we came here. Col. Hunley in his report to the war department reported me, J.D. & some 20 others in other companies in this Battalion.

But the most of us have been changed back, I told Capt. Ingram if he did not get me back I would go home at the risk of my life. I tell you Jane, I never was so mad in my life. It was a general complaint but the boys are getting some what calm. My mess are all in Capt. Ingram's Co. together, except H. Chany. He is in Capt. Horton's Co. I and my mess will stick together, let come what will, I think though all will be quiet in a few days. Our mess are all satisfied, I believe. I expect Wm. Steel will take Chany's place in our mess. I have been very harty since I have been here. I have been well all the time & you had better believe that I made those potatoes get away that you sent to me by J.D. They were so good & nice.

Jane, I cannot describe how bad I want to see you and my little children, Pa & Ma, D.A. & family and in fact all in the neighborhood, but I must tell you I expect if I keep my health it will be months first. Col. Major Hunley said this evening we would leave here next Saturday morning at 8 O'clock for Knoxville, TN. I expect furloughs will be very hard to get. Charley stands it fine. The horses were all valued today. I believe Charley was valued to \$200. We have a nice place to camp. We are at a camp ground. We stay under the arber. We have fine water and plenty of it. I was sorry to here of my mules jumping in peoples corn. You dun just right when you put them up. I don't want them to pester anybodys stuff. If you can't get \$220 or \$225, just keep them. Jane feed them shoats well and try to make your meat out of them and that old sow. I know you will take the best care you can of what little we have got. I will

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draw no money here. They say we will get it at Knoxville. There are about five companies here. Tell Pa I can make out without him trying to bring provisions to me so far. As for my fodder I know Pa will do all he can and Jane I want you to pay him for his labour and trouble. We never can know how much he and Ma have done for us. I want them repaid.

Friday Morning, 19th:

all well this morning. Our neighbor boys are all right this morning. I have as much baggage as Charley aught to carry. I expect you had better write as soon as you get this unless you want for me to wait again, but if you write as soon as you get this, direct your letter to Knoxville, TN.

I do not know how long we will stay there. I do not know whether we will go by where L.L. is or not. I hope we will have to go that way. I have not heard from him since he left home.

T.W. Hendricks

jbass@digital.net  
216 Beach Park Lane  
Cape Canaveral, FL 32920-5003  
LINDSAY and HARRISON Mail List  
Home of The \*HARRISON\* Repository  
URL: <http://www.uokhsc.edu/~rbonner>  
Data Managed by Becky Bass Bonner and Josephine Lindsay Bass



Researcher's Notes

Reprint of column

*Hendrix*

THE COMMERCIAL DISPATCH, COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI  
THURSDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 13, 1978  
PAGE FOURTEEN SECTION ONE

## GENEALOGY And Local History

By BETTY WOOD THOMAS  
Certified Genealogist

When one travels the "Path of Memories" there are always some moments that are recalled with pleasure. There was one such moment on our recent trip we would like to share with all of the people who made it possible.

To your scribe the only way to travel is by train. About an hour before we were to arrive in Atlanta we went to the Dome Car to observe the beauty of riding through the wooded hill lands. As we entered the car the conductor was talking with two men about the United States in general and some of the people he had met in the various sections of the country. The travelers were inquiring about the different places in the South.

The conductor announced, "The friendliest people in the entire country are in Columbus, Miss. When they meet you on the street they will speak to you and they do not want any money. Now, if that happened to you in (name of place withheld) you would know they wanted money."

Oh, what a joy to hear the mention of the ole hometown. As we were leaving the car, we thanked the conductor for his kind words and explained we were from Columbus. To which he turned to the travelers and said, "See, I told you they are friendly people."



Reprint of column

Researcher's Notes

"The Genealogical Helper" is a magazine devoted to "helping more people find more genealogy." It has the largest circulation of any genealogical magazine. In its current issue is an announcement about this column and it is stated in the column we have a national circulation. Over the past few weeks we have received mail from 14 states asking for assistance in finding missing ancestors in Mississippi.

Mrs. Cecil R. Ketchun, Route 1 Box K, Biggs, CA 95917, is seeking information about JAMES WILLIAM KELLUM, born July 4, 1826. He does not appear to have been related to any of the other Kellam families in the 1830 census of Mississippi. He was in Henderson County, Tenn. at the time of the 1850 census. Can anyone help the lady?

**HENDRICK FAMILY (Cont.)**

Bernard G. Hendrick Jr., son of Bernard G. and Lucy (-) Hendrick, born Feb. 22, 1817, Virginia, died Dec. 3, 1896, Lowndes County, Miss., married (1) Dec. 28, 1843 Julia A. Dowsing, daughter of William and Catherine ( ) Dowsing, born March 2, 1824, died Nov. 23, 1859; (2) Jan. 3, 1861 Adaline Marshall, born Nov. 14, 1832, died Oct. 18, 1870.

In 1850 Adaline Marshall was a student at the T. M. Institute in Columbus.

Bernard and Julie (Dowsing) Hendrick's children: William B., born April 9, 1846, died Aug. 4, 1896; Caroline, born Feb. 2, 1849, died April 9, 1858; Julia, born 1851; Robert, born 1853; Samuel, born 1856; and Thomas, born 1859. It is not known if there were any children of the

Researcher's Notes

Reprint of column

second marriage.

In 1850 Bernard, Julia and their children were living with her parents. In 1860 Lucy ( ) Hendrick was living with her son and his children.

Lucy Virginia Hendrick, daughter of Bernard G. and Lucy ( ) Hendrick, born 1818, Virginia, died Aug. 26, 1849, Noxubee County, Miss., married (1) April 6, 1837 Samuel H. Bryn; (2) June 16, 1840 Nathaniel Barnett. Children: First marriage (surname Byrn)--Bettie Samuel, born 1838; second marriage (surname Barnett)--Eliza A., born 1841; Martha Virginia, born 1843; Daniel, born 1845; and Lucy, born 1847.

In the 1850 census Bettie Samuel Byrn, daughter of Samuel H. and Lucy (Hendrick) Byrn, was recorded in the household of her step-father, Nathaniel Barnett and his wife who was Bettie's aunt. Bettie was listed as "Elizabeth B. Barnett." Anyone researching this line should look for her as a "Byrn" and as a "Barnett."

It appears Nathaniel's first wife died leaving him with a son, Charles, born 1837. In 1840 Nathaniel married for the second time and had four children before his second wife died Aug. 26, 1849. It must have been difficult for him to raise five small children of his own and the child of his second wife by her first husband. One can understand why he married for the third time exactly three months after the death of his second wife. He choose for his third wife an aunt of five of the children.

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Researcher's Notes

Sarah B. Hendrick, daughter of Bernard G. and Lucy ( ) Hendrick, married April 14, 1846 Edward R. Neilson, son of William W. Neilson. Sarah is another of the Hendricks of whom very little is known. We are interested in knowing more about her.

Amanda Hendrick, daughter of Bernard G. and Lucy ( ) Hendrick, died Aug. 23, 1849, married March 2, 1845 Oscar T. Keeler. She joined the Methodist Church on May 14, 1848.

It appears she did not have any children because she predeceased her father and he did not name any grandchildren to receive Amanda's share of his estate. He named the children of Prudence and Lucy to receive their mothers' share of his estate. There were not any children with Osacar T. Keeler in the 1860 census who could have been born to the first marriage.

Eliza D. Hendrick, daughter of Bernard G. and Lucy ( ) Hendrick, born 1826, Va., married May 9, 1850 Oscar T. Keeler, widower of her sister, Amanda. He was born 1824; New York. Children: Ella, born 1852; Ida, born 1853; Effie, born 1857; Willie, born 1858; and Florence, born 1860.

Oscar was a merchant. In 1860 he owned \$5,000 in personal property and \$25,000 in real property. His estate was left to his widow for her to care for their children as she saw fit.